

the people of Kansas, by whom was that instrument sanctioned? It was certainly sanctioned by their legal and regular convention; and Governor Wise said in November last:

"If, upon present, the convention of Kansas adopts a republican form of state government, and reports it to Congress, without submitting it to the people, I agree with Mr. Hunter in accepting it, and voting to receive Kansas as a State—slave or free—into the Union. And why? Because, first, of precedent; and secondly, whether it is accepted or rejected, it is to be submitted, or is rejected at last, in either event to the popular vote. If a majority vote approve of the constitution, they may again submit another convention immediately, and adopt any republican form, after they once as a State, without submitting it at all to Congress."

Such was Governor Wise's position in November, and such the conclusive reasons by which he supported it. Words could not be used to express more perfectly than these do the exact ground occupied by the administration in the present position of the Kansas question; and it would require no great stretch of personal vanity in Mr. Wise to claim that the administration had actually adopted this declaration of his in November as its chart in taking the position it occupies on this subject in its present phase.

If Governor Wise could accept a constitution, "slave or free," directly from the hands of a convention in November, surely Mr. Buchanan and the democratic party might be allowed to do the same thing two months afterwards.

It seems that the governor had not then seen the schedule, and that, upon seeing it, great light in the political heavens, the scales fell from his eyes, and thus the policy which a few weeks ago he sanctioned has now, upon "great, fundamental, moral, and political principles," been repudiated. The English of all which, to the plain comprehension of a common man, seems to be nothing more nor less than this, in the long and short: that Governor Wise will accept a constitution for Kansas without submitting it to the people of Kansas, provided it suits him to do so; if not, not.

"JUDGE NOT LIST YE BE JUDGED."

We judge from his late letter to the anti-Lecompton meeting at Philadelphia that Mr. Thomas L. Harris, of Illinois, imagines himself an exceedingly ill-used man. In that document he gives vent to his indignation at the idea of being called a renegade and demagogue by what he politely terms "hiring and plunder-gorged pressers." Mr. Harris thinks, no doubt, that he should be allowed to desert the democratic party, and head black-republicanism in its war upon the administration, with impunity; that its motives should go unquestioned, and his action be attributed to an earnest love of justice, and a patriotic desire to carry out the principles of the Nebraska-Kansas act. This may all be very well; but, in making charity, Mr. Harris should first take care to dispense it; and, in demanding that he be not judged, he should avoid passing judgment upon others. For it will hardly be deemed consistent in him to complain that he has been slandered for going against the administration, whilst in the same breath he is charging that "there are not a half dozen members of Congress from the North who would go for the admission of Kansas under the Lecompton constitution were it not that the President desires them to do so." But if, in spite of consistency, Mr. Harris will make charges like this, he must not be surprised if some over-suspicious people should conclude that he had raised the cry of "Stop thief!" to divert attention from himself.

ANTICIPATING DEFEAT.

The movement of Mr. Fenton, yesterday, in the House of Representatives, is an admission by him and his party friends that defeat awaits their opposition to the admission of Kansas into the Union; and the majority against his proposition to raise a special committee to investigate vague and undefined charges must have satisfied them that the Kansas question is no longer an open one. Mr. Fenton's anxiety to protect himself and friends from the force of the reasons urged by the President in his special message in favor of the admission of the new State was grotesque indeed, and the earnestness with which he claimed such protection afforded general amusement. We advise him to be resigned to his fate; Kansas is no longer a living issue; let him invent a new idea, a new aim, for the next presidential contest. Kansas will be admitted, and the black-republicans deprived thereby of pretty much all their political stock-in-trade. We perceive Mr. Fenton's distress, but cannot extend to him our sympathies.

With all these concessions and explanations, we are no longer of prolonging this contest, and the President's wish to have Kansas admitted this session and take this question out of the general politics of the country, will be shared in by all well-disposed people of all parties.

We find the foregoing in the Cleveland (Ohio) Plain Dealer, and we rejoice to notice that the considerations so fully developed in the President's message to the admission of Kansas have persuaded the Plain Dealer to forego its objections to that admission and acquiesce in the propriety of the policy urged by Mr. Buchanan. This acquiescence is significant in indicating a reconsideration of the question by the people, and that the popular verdict is in favor of the only feasible and speedy mode of disposing of the Kansas question.

"AMERICAN" SENTIMENT AT THE SOUTH.

The Nashville (Tenn.) Patriot, a leading organ of the American party South, in an able article, advocating the admission of Kansas under the Lecompton constitution, has the following language:

"We lay down, neither for ourselves nor for the South, any specific ultimatum, at the present. We can consider, however, the benefits of the Union conferred on the South, which may spring out of the rejection of Kansas. An issue is presented, and it is with that we have to deal. It is the imperative duty of the men of the South, as well as all others who value the glorious principles of true republicanism, to meet it with all the firmness that its weight and gravity demands. It is not an issue for fiery declamation, and individual political triumph. These hot flames that were better smothered. It is an occasion for the full play of wisdom and statesmanship, for deliberate, but resolute advocacy of right, and a devoted defence of the constitution and the Republic. It is not a time for timid men, or for temporizing measures, or ignominious concessions. Right must vindicate itself. The South, if the North shall not, must stand up on the constitution, and in so doing defend herself from disruption even, let others be responsible to history and posterity."

The same paper says:

"It gives us much satisfaction to know that the declaration from Tennessee in the House is a unit on this most important question; and also that the southern American delegation in that body is also a unit, with one exception."

NEW JERSEY.—The Kansas resolutions adopted by the lower house of the New Jersey legislature have been referred to a special committee in the senate, and it is constantly stated they cannot pass that body. In the house they were opposed by a majority of its democratic members.

WE publish below a couple of brief extracts from letters received by us from intelligent gentlemen in the southern States. It is hardly necessary to say that all indications of public sentiment in that quarter are of the same purport:

Richmond, Feb. 10, 1858.

I must write you a line of congratulation upon the noble stand taken by Mr. Buchanan in defence of the constitution and of the South in his last message. I can give you no just estimate of its effect here. Those who were given him with distrust have grounded their arms, and confessed that for vigorous reasoning, unanswerable logic, and fervent and lofty patriotic invocation, it has never been surpassed. Armed with the weapons of the constitution, and paraded by truth and justice, he has scattered to the winds the objections of the captious and trumped in the dust the opposition of the factious. That he will be yet sustained by Congress, in spite of the untoward events surrounding you in Washington, I cannot doubt, unless the representatives of the North are as blind as moles to the signs of the times, and as deaf as adders to the promptings of duty.

Best assured that the South will insist with one voice upon the admission of Kansas under the Lecompton constitution—not from a desire for triumph, because it will practically avail them nothing, but because it is their right to insist—their absolute, constitutional right—and that is all that is left to them. Why should the North not be content with substantial success? Why, in a childish spirit, deny us our "shell" when they have the "kernel"? What but a spirit of unmanly and impetuous insolence can prompt them to compel us to march as captives in their triumphal procession in commemoration of their repelling Kansas a free State? Is it not enough that they have an overwhelming majority in Kansas, before which this constitution could stand the ordinary probation of a negotiable note, if it be distasteful to those who factiously refused to vote upon it? Must we not only perish by a ruthless mob of free-soilers, but be required to fill "dishonorable graves"? Believe us the cup of our wrongs is full to the brim, and it will be a hazardous expedient to add insult to injury. A generous foe would do more than was simply just to the vanquished; but when we ask only the honors of war to be allowed to retire from Kansas with our drums beating and colors flying, they require us to pass "under the yoke," and will accept no terms but those of unconditional surrender. It will not do, and will not be borne. You know I am no crisis man. I venerate and honor this Union. I should deplore its severance as the greatest calamity which could befall not only us, but mankind. Yet I would shudder a shudder before I would submit to further degradation, and from such a act. I mourn for Douglas. He has always been my favorite for the presidency. But "Ephraim is joined to his idols;" let him alone.

Believe me yours, sincerely,

SAVANNAH, (Ga.), February 5, 1858.

Teachery is a sin to be damned; and the traitor must be treated with every anathema in and out of the language. These are the sentiments of all parties, high and low, in every part of the South. From Virginia downwards no man can escape the execrations of the people who, in any public capacity, dares to oppose the admission of Kansas with the Lecompton constitution. Politically the opponent of the measure is as much a dead man as if he had been embalmed in the days of Thutmose III, in Egypt, and buried on the banks of the Nile. It is right and just that such should be the case. For a single ill-considered question, without complication, in which a principle only is in issue resulting in justice to the slave State, to be opposed by any southern representative is treason to his constituents, falsehood to his own conscience, and an outrage on his own respectability and reputation. That no people can tolerate, and we have now the authority and the weight of right, truth, justice, and good faith, asking the whole representation from the South to be united for once. Good God! the President! he has stood up with all the elevation of a noble nature in a position made reputable by the purity of his previous character, and like John the Baptist in the wilderness, is warning the southern sinners to flee the wrath to come.

POLITICAL INTELLIGENCE.

BOSTON.—An election took place in Boston on Wednesday last for an alderman, to fill a vacancy in ward seven, when Mr. Samuel Hatch, the candidate of the democrats and of the "Faneuil Hall" party, was elected by a plurality of 473 over Solomon Piper, the republican and "citizens'" candidate.

The democratic ward and county committee had a meeting on Wednesday, when a series of resolutions were adopted by a vote of 27 to 13, approving of the principles of the Kansas-Nebraska act, and declaring that said act is based upon the doctrine of popular sovereignty; that the principles embraced in the platform adopted by the Cincinnati Democratic Convention and in the inaugural address of President Buchanan commend themselves to the people, and that the meeting gives its hearty and cordial support to Mr. Buchanan's administration.

We are gratified to see that the two democratic members from this State, Messrs. Arnold and Bishop, voted to refer the Lecompton constitution to the standing Committee on Territories, where it properly belongs. By this course they have used their best efforts to dispose of the vexed question in a speedy and satisfactory manner, and put the power into the hands of the people of Kansas at once, and they may regulate their affairs to suit themselves, and restore quiet to Congress and the country.

[See London Daily Star.]

Nobly does Mr. Buchanan realize the expectations of the country in the determination he evinces, so far as he may devolve upon him to act or recommend, to put an end to the unpopularity of the Lecompton constitution, which has long caused depressed its people and agitated the Union.

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VALUABLE PUBLICATIONS.—Mr. A. N. Hart (of the firm of Rice & Hart, Philadelphia) is now in this metropolis, with specimens of the rare and valuable works published by his house, among which are:

*The National Portrait Gallery of Distinguished Americans*, which is sold to order only, is a work in four volumes, illustrated by one hundred and forty-eight engraved portraits of eminent individuals, executed on steel by the best artists, and from the most accurate likenesses known or extant; and each portrait accompanied by a concise, authentic, and characteristic biographical sketch of the individual, in the preparation of which the work has been aided by the ablest writers in the country, and recourse has been had invariably to the most competent and unprejudiced authorities in the statement of facts. This is one of the few standard national works, and merits a place in every library.

*The History of the Indian Tribes* is the well-known work gotten up by Thomas L. McKenney and James Hall, and illustrated with one hundred and twenty beautiful colored portraits.

*Michigan North American Sylva* is completed by three additional volumes by Thomas Nuttall, making five royal octavo volumes, illustrated by two hundred and twenty-seven plates, executed with the strictest fidelity to nature, and carefully colored.

Mr. Hart is at Willard's Hotel, and will wait on any gentleman who may wish to examine the above named works. His subscription books contain the autographic endorsements of many of the first men in the country.

PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE.—That portion of Pennsylvania avenue east of the Capitol, which is the thoroughfare to the Navy Yard and to the Congressional Burial Ground, is very much out of repair. The members of the city council from that part of the city having neglected to attend to it, the Jackson Democratic Association of the Sixth Ward have taken the matter in hand. At their regular monthly meeting, held on Tuesday evening last, they unanimously adopted the following preamble and resolution:

Whereas the members of the city council from the Sixth Ward have neglected to have the portion of Pennsylvania avenue east of the Capitol, which is the thoroughfare to the Navy Yard and to the Congressional Burial Ground, repaired, and a strong effort made to have the condition of the eastern section of the principal thoroughfare (Pennsylvania avenue) of the city improved; therefore,

Resolved, That a committee of fifteen, be forthwith appointed, whose duty it shall be to bring to the notice of the proper authorities of the city and of the general government, and, if necessary, to urge before the Committee in Congress the necessity of the speedy improvement of that portion of Pennsylvania avenue east of the Capitol, and that they be hereby instructed to use all fair and honorable means to have this object consummated.

THE RICHMOND CELEBRATION.—It is announced that the steamer Baltimore will make an extra trip to Richmond to accommodate those intending to be present at the inauguration of the statue of Washington on Monday.

These having tickets for the occasion should be at the wharf on Sunday by 11.30, as the boat will leave at 12 o'clock precisely.

It is stated in the Richmond papers of Friday that nineteen companies of volunteers and cadets had officially dignified their intention to be present and participate in the ceremonies. Among these are the *Girls' Landwehr*, from New York, the Lexington Cadets, and two companies from North Carolina. Banners are to be issued to the soldiers on their arrival.

OVER A NIGHT.—We recommended those who are fond of operatic music to take the train which leaves for Baltimore this afternoon at a quarter past five, go to the Holiday street Theatre, and hear Lagrange and Fornes in "Martha," and return here the same evening in an extra train. Tickets for the excursion, securing seats in the parquette or the dress circle, and paying both car and outside fare, can be obtained at Metzger's music store.

The reputations of Fornes, Lagrange, and the other principal members of the Ullmann troupe, are so well established that we are well satisfied that the anticipations of those who make this musical excursion will be realized.

WINE AND LIQUORS.—We invite attention to the advertisement of C. W. Boteler, offering for sale this evening, at his auction-room in Iron Hall, a large and choice assortment of rare wines and liquors, carefully selected from the stocks of several large importing houses in New York.

It is seldom now-a-days that unadulterated wines or liquors are offered for sale, and we recommend those wishing to obtain genuine brands to call at Iron Hall, where they will find that every lot offered for sale is what the catalogue represents it to be.

WASHINGTON THEATRE.—The announcement that Miss Heron is to appear here on Monday in that much-talked-of play "Camille" has created quite a sensation, and we may expect that the house will be crowded. Meanwhile the stock company offer a good performance for this evening.

PINK CATTLE.—Three noble, fat beefs (almost equal to those raised in the blue-grass region of Kentucky) were led down the avenue yesterday morning. They were raised by John P. Delaney, esq., of Loudoun county, Virginia, and have been purchased by Mr. Hoover, who will doubtless soon exhibit them, cut up into mammoth steaks and choice roasting pieces, at his stall in Centre market.

WASHINGTON LIBRARY.—We are pleased to learn from the Star that the rooms of the Washington Library have been improved in appearance, and that an efficient committee has been raised to wait upon the citizens for the purpose of disposing of shares and obtaining contributions of books.

THE ARTISTS OF WASHINGTON, we are informed, are recommending some differences which have of late estranged a majority of them from the Art Association, and we sincerely hope that a perfect reconciliation can speedily be effected. The number of those interested in art progress in this country is small enough, at the best, and should be kept in a solid phalanx, ever ready to overcome prejudice or error, and always advancing towards perfection.

OLD WINES.—Mr. McGuire will sell this morning, at his auction-room, the most desirable stock of wines and liquors ever offered in this market—many of them being purchased at the sale of the private stock of wines of the late Judge Glenn and Josiah Lee, of Baltimore.

A CHARITY CONCERT will be given by the choir of St. Mary's church on Monday evening, the 15th, at the hall in Washington street. The proceeds will be devoted to the support of the St. Mary's school.

VALENTINE'S DAY is at hand, and Shillington is prepared, as usual, to furnish all who wish to forward these messages of fun or friendship with missives suited to their tastes and to their purses.

LAFAYETTE SQUARE, in which the equestrian statue of General Jackson stands, is often misnamed "President's Square."

RELIGIOUS NOTICE.—The Rev. Dr. Teasdale, having returned from the south, will occupy his pulpit in the 12th Street Baptist Church on Sabbath morning, at 11 o'clock, and at 7½ o'clock at night. Citizens and strangers are respectfully invited to attend.

REV. O. PARKER, an experienced and eminently successful evangelist, will preach at the Western Presbyterian Church on Sabbath, 14th, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, and every evening, through next week, at 7½ o'clock. Feb. 13.

FOUR VESTRES; Countes of Novelles. 30 cents.

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